

# PEDIARIX™

## FACTS FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

With Pediarix, parents have a choice for their child's vaccines. Pediarix vaccine is safe and requires 5 fewer shots. Children are somewhat more likely to develop a mild fever after being vaccinated; this can be treated with Tylenol or similar medication. Consult with the child's health care provider to make an informed choice.



# NH Immunization Program

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

**If you have questions or concerns about immunizations or vaccines,**  
call the public health nurses at the Immunization Program, between 8am and 4:30pm Monday–Friday:  
**603-271-4482**  
toll free **800-852-3345 x4482**

**PEDIARIX is a vaccine** that combines DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, acellular Pertussis), Polio and Hepatitis B vaccines into one shot. This new vaccine product is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

- **Pediarix may be administered** at 2 months, 4 months and 6 months old or other alternative schedules that may combine Pediarix and individual vaccines. A child must be a minimum of 6 weeks old to receive the first dose of Pediarix and a minimum of 6 months old to receive the third dose.
- **A child who has received Hepatitis B vaccine at birth** may receive the 3-dose series of Pediarix even though this would mean that the child would get 4 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.
- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) continue to encourage parents to have their children immunized with the first dose of Hepatitis B vaccine at birth.
- **Pediarix may be given** with any other routinely recommended vaccines. Different injection sites should be used.
- **Pediarix may be used** to complete a primary series begun with individual DTaP, Polio and Hepatitis B vaccines.
- **A child who starts the series with Pediarix** may switch to individual DTaP, Polio and Hepatitis B vaccines.
- **Immunization scheduling options** are outlined on the back of this paper.
- **Clinical studies have shown** the body's response to Pediarix to be the same as to that of the individual vaccines given separately.
- **The rates of adverse events** were the same in the Pediarix trials except for infants who received Pediarix at the same time as Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib). These children had higher rates of low-grade fever. 26.6% of the children had fevers of 100.4°F to 101.3°F. 2.9% had fevers of 101.3°F to 103°F. There was no difference in the number of fevers 103°F or above. Ask your child's health care provider about the use of medication for fever control.
- **Pediarix does not contain** thimerosal as a preservative. Thimerosal is used in the production and is removed, leaving an insignificant trace.

**A CHILD SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN PEDIARIX** if he/she has any of the following:

- 1:** allergy to any component of the vaccine including yeast, neomycin and polymyxin B.
- 2:** a history of severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of Pediarix or a previous dose of any of the vaccines contained in Pediarix.
- 3:** a history of encephalopathy within 7 days of a previous dose of any pertussis-containing vaccine.
- 4:** any progressive neurological disorder, including infantile spasm, uncontrolled epilepsy or progressive encephalopathy.

# SCHEDULE OPTIONS FOR USING **PEDIARIX™**

## ACRONYM KEY:

DTaP = Diphtheria, Tetanus and acellular Pertussis

IPV = Inactivated Polio

HepB = Hepatitis B

Hib = Haemophilus influenzae type b

Pediarix = Diphtheria, Tetanus, acellular Pertussis, Polio and HepB

PCV7 (Prevnar™) = Pneumococcal Conjugate

## CURRENTLY USED RECOMMENDED VACCINATION SCHEDULE for children birth to 6 months

*The schedule below is currently used for recommended vaccines. The total number of vaccinations given is 15.*

birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
HepB	HepB		HepB
	DTaP	DTaP	DTaP
	IPV	IPV	IPV
	Hib	Hib	Hib
	PCV7	PCV7	PCV7

## PEDIARIX SCHEDULES for children birth to 6 months

*The following schedules are now available if a parent and health care provider choose to use Pediarix. Please note that the birth dose of Hepatitis B is **strongly recommended** regardless of which option is chosen.*

### Pediarix Option #1: Preferred 3-Dose Hepatitis B Schedule

birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
HepB	Pediarix	DTaP	Pediarix
		IPV	
	Hib	Hib	Hib
	PCV7	PCV7	PCV7

*This option includes the use of Pediarix while maintaining the 3-dose schedule of HepB. With this option, the total number of vaccinations given is 11.*

### Pediarix Option #2: Alternative 3-Dose Hepatitis B Schedule

birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
HepB	DTaP	Pediarix	Pediarix
	IPV		
	Hib	Hib	Hib
	PCV7	PCV7	PCV7

*This option includes the use of Pediarix while maintaining the 3-dose schedule of HepB. With this option, the total number of vaccinations given is 11.*

### Pediarix Option #3: Alternative 4-Dose Hepatitis B Schedule

birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
HepB	Pediarix	Pediarix	Pediarix
	Hib	Hib	Hib
	PCV7	PCV7	PCV7

*This schedule adds a fourth dose of HepB. With this option, the total number of vaccinations given is 10.*

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**[www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/IMMUNIZATION](http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/IMMUNIZATION)**

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